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Salem, from Lynn, Mass. (collector's name not given) and Massachusetts bay (Capt. W. H. A. Putnam). *Meterythroops*, a new genus of Schizopoda is characterized and figured. It has the cephalothoracic appendages of *Parerythroops* with the abdominal feet in the female rudimentary, and in the male as in *Erythroops*. Sar's *Chiromysis microps* is shown to be congeneric with *Heteromysis formosa* Smith. Following this list, which we have thus briefly noticed, is a valuable account of the geographical distribution of these species. We would, however, note that contrary to the statement on pp. 127 and 128, the genus *Platyonychus* is represented in Europe by two species, *P. nasutus* of the Mediterranean, and *P. latipes*, with a larger distribution. It is shown that contrary to the opinion of European zoölogists, the fauna of Greenland is as closely allied to that of North America as to that of Europe, "or in other words, it is only part of the great arctic, circumpolar fauna."—J. S. Kingsley.

INGERSOLL'S NESTS AND EGGS OF AMERICAN BIRDS.¹—Our notice of this important accession to the literature of American ornithology has been too long delayed. It is a work for which there is room, and one which bids fair to take and fill acceptably a place of its own. No work has yet been provided for the special needs of American cölogists, the one attempted many years ago by Dr. Brewer having failed of accomplishment after the issue of the first fascicle. There are very many persons in this country, especially among the rising generation, who will be glad to have an egg-book "all to themselves"—one that will teach them the distinctive breeding habits of birds, enable them thus to find nests and eggs, and when found to make a collection of them. Such a work Mr. Ingersoll proposes to furnish, and the first installment of his undertaking gives promise that he will discharge his self-imposed obligation faithfully.

To judge from the portion already issued, this treatise will win its distinctive position and secure a name among numerous competitors in the field ornithological, by conforming to the implication of its title. Mr. Ingersoll does wisely, we take it, in restricting himself rigorously to his theme, even at the expense of a certain appearance of incompleteness which may strike some unfavorably; for it would be of no special use to undertake the systematic treatment of North America ornithology. Evidently believing that good style may be serviceable even in statement of fact, the author would combine literary excellence with scientific merit. Recognizing, furthermore, how much has already been done in his chosen field, he seems to prefer to quote a satisfactory description of nest or egg rather than to produce a duplicate, the concern being rather for the quality than the source of the informa-

¹ *Nests and Eggs of American Birds*. By ERNEST INGERSOLL. S. E. Cassino, Naturalists' Agency, Salem, Mass. Part I, pp. 24, pls. 11. (*Pub. March*, 1879.)

tion he has to offer. These are all such desirable points that their faithful observance throughout the work cannot fail of good result.

The present Part treats of about a dozen species of *Turdidæ*. We doubt that it is a fair sample of what the whole work will be, as we presume the author will improve as he settles more closely to his task; yet the standard here attained is high, fully warranting what we have already said. The appearance of the work is attractive, and the mechanical execution good, with one exception: the references to the plates are insufficiently explicit, or rather not prominent enough. It is impossible to number or letter plates too plainly, or make the textual references too conspicuous. We venture to suggest to the author, that, at the risk of typographical difformity in succeeding parts, the full reference to the plate and figure be made a conspicuous part of each species-heading; and to the publisher we further recommend that the lettering of the plates be bolder. As Allen recently said, in substance, in the *Nuttall Bulletin*, the names of the species the eggs of which are figured, might be advantageously substituted for the legend now usurping a place at the bottom of the plates; and this running title be transferred to the right hand top corner.

There is one grave defect of the work that we cannot suffer to pass unrebuked. There is nothing to show whether Part I was published in March, 1879, as happens to be the case, or in some other month of some other year. In giving no date, both author and publisher, they and their book, run their chances of being mentally consigned by some irate bibliographer of the future to a less desirable place than a niche in the temple of posthumous fame. We are personally cognizant of various persons who have already, in fact, met with a fate so deplorable, on this very account.

It remains to speak of the execution of the plates, briefly, for the less said the better, unless it should stimulate the artist and publisher to renewed exertion to bring the drawing, shading and coloring of the figures nearer the standard of excellence required for the fit illustration of so admirable a treatise as the "Nests and Eggs of American Birds" aspires and promises to be.—E. C.

TEXAN ORNITHOLOGY.—After lying fallow for some years, the field of ornithology along our south-western frontier has been worked over with energy and success by several competent observers, whose labor has resulted in adding some *thirty* species to the recognized fauna of the United States, besides greatly enlarging the bounds of our knowledge of the life-histories of these and numerous other birds with which we were none too familiar. The name of Mr. H. W. Henshaw will instantly recur to one in this connection; if we remember rightly, not having the exact figures at pen-point, about half of these acquisitions